

Dr. Freeman was appointed by the NIU Board on September 20, 2018, to serve as the university's 13th president and first woman president—lucky number 13.

As a proud NIU alum, earning my PhD in political science from NIU in 2004, I'm excited to welcome Dr. Freeman to her new, and finally, official role. She previously served as acting president since July 2017.

Dr. Freeman has dedicated her career to the promotion of social excellence and engagement in teaching and learning, research and scholarship, creativity and artistry, and outreach and service.

I have no doubt that her inspiring nature and example will surely lead NIU to greater heights under her steadfast and visionary leadership.

Her commitment to the academic excellence of the students and faculty at NIU will maintain NIU's leadership as a world-class institution. Throughout her career, Dr. Freeman has fostered an inclusive learning environment where students and faculty can live, grow and thrive.

As a proud NIU alum, I can recount the moments throughout my educational journey where men and women, like Dr. Freeman, helped pave a way for me and others to succeed, in the classroom, in our careers and in life.

In my current role as the Congresswoman for Illinois' 2nd District, it encourages me to see the broad-spectrum collaboration and participation underway at NIU, from science and mathematics to political science, business and the arts.

My office and constituents have certainly benefitted from the great educational experience available at NIU. In fact, a number of my current and former staffers and interns are all NIU alums, and they work hard every day to serve the great people of the 2nd Congressional District.

As our institutions of higher learning face 21st century challenges, I know that NIU, under Dr. Freeman's leadership, will rise up and not only meet but also exceed these challenges.

In particular, Dr. Freeman's own personal examples as a barrier-breaking researcher in the STEM field will certainly inspire many young people to find their own place and path in the dynamic, growing and innovative STEM fields.

As a proud Husky, it's my honor to welcome Dr. Freeman as the 13th President of Northern Illinois University. I am confident that under her leadership, NIU will continue to flourish as an innovative and world-leading, student-centered, research-focused public university.

Welcome once again and go Huskies.

HONORING NATALIE AUDAGE WITH CALIFORNIA'S THIRD DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Natalie Audage as a woman of the year. She is committed to serving her community through her career as a Child Abuse Prevention Coordinator for Yolo County Children's Alliance. Her down-to-earth and en-

gaging personality and commitment to professionalism enable her to bridge divides and affect positive change in social service sectors in Yolo County. Through her work, Ms. Audage produces a guide of resources that aims to prevent child abuse by providing parents and caregivers with skills that encourage healthy interactions with their children. As a coordinator of Yolo County Children's Alliance's Family Strengthening Network, she spearheaded the effort to train collaborative providers on the World Café model, an initiative which brings parents, leaders, educators, agency staff, and students together to pursue improvements in county systems. This model ensures that people of all communities are reached and offered the opportunity to reach their potential and thrive. Ms. Audage also worked for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia, where she researched and produced resources related to violence prevention and the adverse effects of child abuse across the lifespan. She brings this expertise to her work fighting for families in Yolo County. She is a passionate and dedicated advocate for children and is leaving an indelible mark on Child Abuse Prevention in Yolo County. I commend Natalie Audage for her passion and commitment to keeping children safe and in healthy family environments.

SCARSDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 1 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, first responders are the heroes of our local communities. We in the 16th Congressional District of New York are fortunate to have had the Scarsdale Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 for the past 125 years, and I want to honor them on reaching that amazing milestone.

Established in 1893, the Scarsdale Volunteer Fire Department No. 1 started with a handful of dedicated volunteers as they hooked a couple of horses to a wagon attached with fire extinguishers, and were without a fire station until the following year. Now, the Scarsdale Volunteer Fire Company is one of three fire stations throughout the Village of Scarsdale comprised of 47 career members and 70 volunteer firefighters across 3 different fire stations.

In 2016 alone, the Scarsdale Fire Department responded to 1,499 alarms, which included 42 structure fires, 139 motor vehicle accidents and victim rescues, 268 hazardous condition requests, and 258 public assistance calls. The skill and professionalism of the Scarsdale firefighters is evident in their average response time of 3 to 4 minutes per emergency. This has made the Scarsdale Fire Department one of the best in Westchester County, and within the top 10 percent of fire departments in New York State.

I want to commend Fire Chief James E. Seymour IV for his outstanding leadership as well as all the career firefighters and volunteer firefighters who dedicate their time and service for protecting the Scarsdale community.

Mr. Speaker, every community unknowingly relies on the dedicated service of unsung he-

roes. The Village of Scarsdale is fortunate to have the amazing first responders of the Scarsdale Volunteer Fire Company protecting them for over a century.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the National Adoption Day celebration that will take place in Ector County on November 16th at the Crossroads Fellowship Church. Throughout the day, local courts in Ector County will finalize the adoption process for families in the community.

It is no coincidence that National Adoption Awareness Month falls in the same month of Thanksgiving. During this time of year, we reflect on the many blessings in our lives, such as family. Our families play an instrumental role in our lives by helping shape our character, providing unconditional love, motivating us through challenging times, and giving us a lifetime of memories that we will always cherish.

Sadly, over 100,000 children are waiting to find their permanent home. Many of these children have various medical, developmental, and emotional needs that require special nurturing from parents and families. Our world is fortunate enough to be blessed by people who open their hearts and homes to these children. These selfless individuals provide an important service not only to these children, but also to our communities and country.

These new families hold a special place in my heart because I am adopted myself. My father adopted my little brother, sister, and me, so seeing other children who have the benefit of a loving family warms my heart.

I want to thank the Court Appointed Special Advocates of the Permian Basin and other adoption organizations across the nation that make National Adoption Day possible. I also want to thank the dedicated individuals who make a powerful difference in the lives of children through adoption.

CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST 5 MADERA COUNTY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th anniversary of First 5 Madera County. Since its creation in 1998, First 5 Madera County has embarked on a mission to promote an integrated system of care with the purpose of ensuring that every child has a safe and nurturing environment to grow. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor the work of First 5 Madera County and celebrate their many accomplishments throughout the past 20 years.

Since its inception, the goal of First 5 Madera County has been to provide services to children and families in the Central Valley.

Among the many services they provide include early childhood education, public policy advocacy, and community outreach.

First 5 Madera County has been a committed partner to many community groups, working toward prevention and early intervention systems that promote optimal health and development for infants and toddlers. Partnerships such as First 5 and Madera County Workforce have been essential in supporting families with young children to ensure access to professional opportunities that will help them further develop their social emotional learning and family support.

In twenty years, First 5 has increased public participation and efforts to bring awareness to issues affecting families and their children. They have focused on the elimination of persistent disparities in the community. Dedicated staff and volunteers have also created educational workshops for underserved families to help them have the tools necessary for success.

In recent years, First 5 Madera County has continued to demonstrate its independent leadership while recognizing the value of establishing meaningful partnerships. They have succeeded in educating the public on the importance of child advocacy, further developing research issues affecting infants and toddlers and promoted health and education for young children.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring First 5 Madera County on the occasion of their 20th anniversary. I look forward to the opportunity to continue to work together to further First 5 Madera County's mission. Once again, congratulations on this special milestone.

**HONORING PAMELA DAGROSSA
WITH CALIFORNIA'S THIRD DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR
AWARD**

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pamela DaGrossa as a woman of the year. She is committed to serving her community and dedicates her time to support the underserved and less fortunate in Colusa County. As a court appointed Special Advocate for Glenn County, she devotes her time to mentoring foster children and advances their best interest in court. Ms. DaGrossa also works as an Animal Control Officer with the Colusa County Sheriff's Department and generously volunteers at the Friends of the Colusa County Animal Shelter working to save the lives of abused and neglected animals. The Friends of the Colusa County Animal Shelter organization provides numerous services to Colusa County's underfunded shelter, and as a volunteer Ms. DaGrossa saves countless shelter animals by providing foster care, medical treatment, vaccinations, and providing transportation to rescue organizations. Ms. DaGrossa is also central to empowering and encouraging her community to have a strong voice in local and national politics. As the chair of the Colusa County Democratic Central Committee and active member of Indivisible Colusa, Ms. DaGrossa aims to inform voters and encour-

age individuals to be active in politics. Her dedication to improving her community, positive attitude, and compassion for all are just a few qualities that make Ms. DaGrossa a truly extraordinary individual.

**IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERTO S.
JUAREZ AND HIS 40 YEARS OF
SERVICE TO CLINICAS DEL CAMINO
REAL, INC.**

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Roberto S. Juarez, one of Ventura County's most notable leaders and engaged citizens, on the momentous occasion of celebrating his 40th anniversary as Chief Executive Officer of Clinicas del Camino Real, Inc.

Throughout these four decades, Roberto has been tremendously effective and absolutely indispensable in serving as a voice for those who are underserved by our healthcare system. With Roberto at the helm, Clinicas del Camino Real, Inc. has provided quality, integrated, and comprehensive health care services at 13 locations in Ventura County that are accessible to the least advantaged in our community.

Roberto is a man that came from very humble means. As a son of immigrants from Mexico, he was the first in his family to attend college. He studied business administration, receiving degrees from the University of California, Los Angeles and California Lutheran University. Roberto's tenacity and ability to overcome obstacles played an instrumental role in all of his achievements.

Roberto has not only distinguished himself as a highly regarded citizen in our community, but also as a model and courageous patriot of our nation. From 1966 through 1970, Roberto served in the United States Army's elite Ready Reactionary Force. After serving courageously and with distinction in Vietnam from December 1966 to December 1967, Roberto was awarded the Bronze Star, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding admirable achievement, and the Purple Heart. These awards reflect credit upon him and are in the keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. Army.

Roberto maintained his commitment to community by obtaining a position as an administrator at Ventura County Hospital shortly after being discharged from his military service. Soon thereafter, he assumed the role as Chief Executive Officer of Clinicas del Camino Real, Inc., which, at the time, consisted of only five employees while serving 1,300 patients a year.

Roberto's unparalleled vision, leadership, and desire to bring quality and affordable care to the residents of Ventura County quickly expanded the non-profit to a staff of well over 700 that now serve countless of patients over 370,000 visits a year. Under Roberto's direction, Clinicas not only treats illnesses and injuries, but it also has an emphasis on education and prevention that promotes wellness to help people lead healthier lives. Roberto's holistic approach to health care has been a model for Ventura County and the State of California.

For these reasons, it is with great enthusiasm that I offer Roberto Juarez my heartfelt appreciation for his years of outstanding service to Ventura County. I am so pleased to join his family, friends, and colleagues in celebrating his accomplishments and thank him for his unwavering service to our community throughout the past 40 years. I wish him continued success and only the best in all of his future endeavors.

**RECOGNIZING COX TOYOTA'S 50TH
ANNIVERSARY**

HON. MARK WALKER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of Cox Toyota in Burlington, North Carolina. Founded by the Cox family, Cox Toyota has remained a family business and has become a key part of the Sixth District. For five decades, Mr. Don Cox has used the success of his family owned business to serve the community, through his work with organizations such as Toys for Tots and the Wounded Warriors project. I am proud to represent businesses such as Cox Toyota who have had such a positive impact on our local economies as well as our communities in need. I offer my sincerest congratulations to Mr. Don Cox and the rest of his family and the Cox Toyota team on this amazing milestone.

**H.R. 1551, THE MUSIC
MODERNIZATION ACT**

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, thanks to the hard work of both Judiciary Committee staffs, a formal conference to resolve the differences between H.R. 5447 and S. 2823 was unnecessary. On behalf of the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the House and Senate Judiciary Committees, I have posted to the House Judiciary Committee website an amended background and section by section that would have been included in the official Conference Report to H.R. 1551 had the bill been subject to a formal conference committee. This document can be found at <https://judiciary.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Music-Modernization-Act.pdf>.

**HONORING RAPHAEL "RAE"
TURNBULL WITH CALIFORNIA'S
THIRD DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE
YEAR AWARD**

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Raphael "Rae" Turnbull as a woman of the year. She is a mother, grandmother, author, teacher, artist, and gallery director with an exceptionally wide range of personal and